

STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

for the Year ended
31st December, 1965

H. R. Morrison, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

TO THE CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, of the
STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1965.

The mid-year population, as estimated by the Registrar General, was 4,130 a decrease of 290 on that for the year 1964.

The total number of births was 76, there being 2 deaths of children under one year of age, and no maternal deaths during the year under review.

Deaths totalled 42 (54 in 1964) giving a death rate of 10.26 which is lower than that for England and Wales at 11.5.

Principal causes of deaths were - 19 heart diseases (16 in 1964), 4 from cancer (6 in 1964), 13 from vascular lesions of the nervous system (13 in 1964) and 6 from respiratory disease other than tuberculosis.

30 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year, compared with 13 in 1964, 26 being measles, and 4 Dysentery cases.

There was one notification of pulmonary tuberculosis in the District during the year.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, HOUSING AND WATER SUPPLY

These matters are dealt with by the Public Health Inspector in his report which follows at the end of my report. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to him and other Members of his staff for their co-operation and help.

H.R. Morrison,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health Dr. H.R. Morrison, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector C.D. Hunter, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	...	97,630
Resident Population, mid-year estimate	...	4,130
Number of inhabited houses	...	1,476
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1965	...	179,465
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£720
Rate in £ levied at 1st April, 1965.	...	10/-

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of live births registered during the year was 76 as against 69 in 1964 (17.97). The birth rate comparisons show that the rate for the District is higher than that for the rest of England and Wales, (18.1).

Birth Rate Comparisons

Live births per 1,000 population, as adjusted
by Comparability Factor
Still Births per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.

	<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Still Births</u>
1964 Startforth Rural District	17.97	14.28
1965 Startforth Rural District	19.39	13.11
1965 England and Wales	18.1	15.7

Analysis of Births

<u>Live Births:-</u>		1964		1965	
		M	F	M	F
Legitimate	...	37	31	35	33
Illegitimate	...	-	1	7	1
		<u>37</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>34</u>

Illegitimate Live Births= 10.52...

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births = 14.70
 Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate live births = 12.5
 Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks)=26.31 per thousand
 Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week)=26.31 total live births
 Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined
 per 1,000 total live and still births)=38.96

Still Births:-

		1964		1965	
		M	F	M	F
Legitimate	...	1	-	-	1
Illegitimate	...	-	-	-	-
		<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

DEATHS

Maternal Mortality. No maternal deaths were registered in the District during the year as in the past 8 years.

Infantile Mortality. 2 children under one year died in the District during 1965, as against 3 in 1964.

Infantile Mortality comparisons per 1,000 live births.

Startforth Rural District 1964	...	43.47
Startforth Rural District 1965	...	26.31
England and Wales 1965	...	19.0

Deaths from all Causes. During 1965 there were 42 deaths from all causes registered in the District, as against 54 in 1964. The death rate being lower than that for England and Wales (11.5).

Death Rate Comparisons - per 1,000 population as adjusted by Comparability Factor

Startforth Rural District 1964	...	13.31
Startforth Rural District 1965	...	10.26
England and Wales 1965	...	11.5

Causes of all Deaths - Compared with 1964

		1965		1964	
		M	F	M	F
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	-	-	-	1
" " Uterus	...	-	-	-	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasm	...	3	1	2	2
Leukemia	...	-	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	1	5	5	8
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	7	7	7	5
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	-	-	-	-
Other Heart Diseases	...	1	4	2	2
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	3	4	3	1
Bronchitis	...	-	-	3	-
Congenital Malformations	...	-	-	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	3	2	4	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	-	-	-	-
All other accidents	...	-	-	-	-
Suicide	...	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	...	1	-	2	1
Diabetes	...	-	-	1	1
		<u>19</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>23</u>

Number of Deaths from the seven Chief Causes, Rates and Comparisons with previous year.

	per 1,000 population.			
	1965		1964	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Cancer	4	.97	6	1.35
Respiratory (non-tuberculosis)	1	.24	6	1.35
Heart Diseases	19	4.60	16	3.62
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis - Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
Other Circulatory Diseases	7	1.69	4	.90
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	6	1.45	13	2.94
	<u>37</u>	<u>8.95</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>10.16</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. There were 30 cases of notifiable and/or infectious diseases reported during 1965, as against 13 in 1964.

Analysis of infectious diseases and comparisons with previous year.

	1965	1964
	<u>No. of cases</u>	<u>No. of cases</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	3
Measles	26	9
Whooping Cough	-	1
Dysentery	4	-
	<u>30</u>	<u>13</u>

Tuberculosis. One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified in 1965. A male aged 65.

Deaths from Tuberculosis. No deaths from this disease were registered in the District in 1965 as in 1964.

Vaccination and Immunisation Against Smallpox, Diphtheria, and Pertussis, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis, carried out during 1965.

	<u>Vaccination</u>	<u>Re-vaccination</u>
Smallpox	68	37
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Diphtheria	94	44
Pertussis and Whooping Cough	92	11
Tetanus	97	41
Poliomyelitis	104	62

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946.

Sections 22, 23, 24 and 25. Care of Mothers and Young Children, Domiciliary Midwifery, Health Visiting and Home Nursing.

The Infant Welfare Clinic held monthly at Barningham continued during the year. The District Medical Officer was in attendance as well as the District Nurse/Midwives. The Infant Welfare Clinic at Deerbolt is held fortnightly for the wives and children of army personnel with a District Nurse/Midwife in attendance.

The following number of visits paid to patients in the District by the Nurse Midwife during 1965 under the respective categories are compared with those for 1964:-

<u>Category</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>
Domiciliary Midwifery ...	625	380
Home Nursing ...	1281	1,467
Health Visiting ...	1,891	2,062

Section 27 - Ambulance Service. This service is provided by the North Riding County Council from the Ambulance Station which has a staff of one Driver-Foreman, one Shift Leader and six Driver-Attendants.

Section 28 - Prevention of Illness. Care and After-care. The work of vaccination and immunisation, together with the advice spread by those working in the Public Health Service, Inspectors, Midwives, Maternity and Child Welfare Officers, Doctors and Nurses, must have a beneficial effect on the general health of the community.

Meals on Wheels. A meals on wheels service is operated in the area and is organised by the W.V.S.

Section 29 - Domestic Home Help Service. This service is provided by the North Riding County Council and during 1965 20 cases received help, as compared with 18 in 1964, the analysis and comparison with 1964 being:-

<u>Category</u>	<u>Cases</u>		<u>Hours</u>	
	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
Domiciliary Midwifery ...	1	2	45	32
Chronic Sick ...	17	18	5,071	5,318
Sick Housewife ...	-	-	-	-
	<u>18</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>5,116</u>	<u>5,350</u>

CHIROPODY

The North Riding County Council employ a chiropodist to provide the service for aged people, expectant mothers, physically handicapped, and mentally disordered. Sessions are held at Bowes and Cotherstone as and when required.

The Public Health work of the District has been carried out as usual by Mr. C.D. Hunter, the Public Health Inspector, who has compiled the remainder of this report.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS

Total Number of Inspections for Nuisances only	..	49
Total Number of Nuisances found	13
Number abated by informal action	9
Number abated by statutory action	4

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A scavenging service continued to operate throughout the area during 1965. Only a small number of the most remote and inaccessible properties were not served. A weekly collection is provided for almost all premises, although a few of the farmsteads lying outside the main centres of population are only visited fortnightly.

All refuse is conveyed to one refuse tip which is situated near the village of Mickleton; unfortunately this is at one end of the district but the journeys have been so arranged as to minimise the dead mileage. So far as is possible controlled tipping is carried out in accordance with Ministry of Health Recommendations.

One rear loading vehicle and one side loading vehicle are regularly used on the service together with five men, and one old vehicle is kept available for emergency use. The annual cost of the service is £5,301.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959

<u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority 13	32
Factories not included above in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority 7	13
Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	6	9

Cases in which defects were found.

	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted.
	.. Found	Remedied	referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences					
Unsuitable or defective	1	2	-	2	-

(*) Includes one case carried over from 1964.

Outworkers

Two outworkers are registered for the making, etc, of wearing apparel.

OFFICE SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT. 1963

(1) Class of Premises	(2) Number of premises registered during the year.	(3) Total number of registered premises at end of year.	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the Year.
Offices	-	1	1
Retail shops	1	2	2
Wholesale, shops, warehouse	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.	1	5	5
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	8	8

The number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises was 17.

Because of the late delivery of the necessary equipment it was not possible to take measurements of lighting conditions in any of the premises during 1965. It is hoped to carry out this work in 1966 and it is considered probable that some of the premises may fail to reach the desired standard.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The following establishments are registered under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960.

Category	Number of Premises	Number complying with Regulation 16	Number to which Regulation 19 applies.	Number complying with Regulation 19
Grocer and General Store	14	14	14	13
Cafes and Restaurants	4	4	4	4
Butchers Shops	1	1	1	1
Hotels and Inns	16	16	16	16
Licensed Clubs	3	3	3	3

Nine of these shop premises are registered to store ice cream for sale and all of these retail pre-packed ice cream only.

Three privately owned slaughterhouses are registered and 451 visits for meat inspection were made during the year. The tables below show the details of the carcasses inspected during the year.

As in former years the animals slaughtered to provide meat for human consumption were of a high standard of quality and the amount condemned as unfit was a very small percentage of the whole. The total weight of meat condemned was 242 lbs, a very small amount having regard to the fact that the total number of animals slaughtered was 2,530.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	427	-	286	1,678	139	-
Number Inspected	427	-	286	1,678	139	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	-	2	21	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	1.87	-	0.70	1.25	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

CARAVAN SITES

The total number of licensed sites at the end of the year 1965 was 27. With one exception these are sites for very small numbers of caravans (less than five) and little difficulty is experienced in their control.

One large site at Startforth accommodated a maximum of 200 caravans during the year. This site provides holiday accommodation only - no residential vans are permitted. The standard of cleanliness is very high and no difficulty is experienced in enforcing the licence conditions on the site.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Council now possess satisfactory sewerage systems at Cotherstone, Romalokirk, Mickleton, Barningham, Startforth, Bowes, and Boldron; the two latter being commissioned during the year.

Ovington, Hutton Magna and Lartington remain outstanding and preparatory work is in hand for these.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supplies throughout the area are under the control of the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board and no difficulties of operation were experienced during the year. Because of the comparatively low yield from the bore hole supply at Bowes the Water Board indicated during the year that they were not prepared to afford a supply of water to any further consumers. They have been asked to take action to remedy this difficulty and they are preparing plans to this effect.

A total of 47 samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year; of these 21 were unsatisfactory, largely from private supplies. Advice as to remedial measures was offered in these latter cases.

In addition to the foregoing the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board carry out regular routine examinations of all the supplies under their control both bacteriologically and chemically. No chemical analyses have been made on samples taken by the department and I am indebted to the Water Board's Chemist for the information given overleaf which represents the average figure of a number of chemical analyses of the public supplies. Figures given are expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated.

939 houses are connected to the public mains in the area and a total of 544 are dependent on private supplies of varying sorts, primarily springs.

HOUSING

The Council owns eighty-six houses, and 24 bungalows.

Further consideration was given during the year to the erection of additional houses at Startforth and it was decided to postpone action until financial considerations permitted the erection of houses which could be offered to prospective tenants at rents within the reach of the comparatively low-paid rural workers in the area.

During the year applications have been approved for both standard and discretionary grants. 42 standard grants were approved and 8 discretionary grants. The total number of grants approved since the introduction of the schemes is 238. The average figure paid during the year for Standard Grants was £88 and for Discretionary Grants £270. In view of the small local building force available it is felt that progress with improvement schemes is satisfactory.

ACCIDENT CONTROL

During the year a total of 15 treatments for the elimination of rats and mice was carried out using the principle laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

THE TEES VALLEY AND CLEVELAND WATER BOARD

ANALYSES OF WATER SUPPLIES

AVERAGES FOR THE YEAR 1965

Results expressed as parts per million.

	Lartington mixed final water.	Barnard Castle Urban District Reservoir, Startforth Village	Hunderthwaite	Holwick	Bowes- Boldron	Barningham
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.023	0.007	0.008	0.024	0.009	0.007
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.060	0.043	0.016	0.071	0.024	0.026
Nitrite Nitrogen	0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.001	<0.001
Nitrate Nitrogen	<0.25	0.30	<0.25	<0.25	0.30	<0.25
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hrs. at 27°C	3.9	0.5	0.35	5.1	0.4	1.9
Colour (Hazen)	40	6	5	43	5	13
Turbidity as Silica	3.0	1.7	0.9	2.0	1.9	1.8
pH	7.9	7.3	7.0	7.4	7.1	7.5
Free Carbon Dioxide	2.7	5.9	4.5	9.7	14	8.7
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	38	67	148	84	315	110
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	38	67	148	84	315	110
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	31	11	-	6	-	10
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	69	78	150	90	233	120
Calcium Hardness as CaCO ₃	61	67	124	84	170	96
Magnesium Hardness as CaCO ₃	8	11	26	6	63	24
Chlorides as Cl	13	11	9	14	13	12
Silicate as SiO ₂	1.8	8	11	5	18	8
Iron as Fe	0.25	0.04	0.05	0.21	0.11	0.09
Potassium as K	0.65	0.95	2.1	1.1	28	1.1
Sodium as Na	3.5	6.5	6.7	12	73	7.2
Total Solids dried at 105°C	130	114	197	154	447	176
Fluoride Content	0.2	Nil	0.1	0.15	0.4	0.1
Conductivity micro-ohms	154	-	343	225	664	-

